

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/644,220

Examiner

Preeti Kumar

Applicant(s)

SCHNEIDER ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to November 24, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-8 and 11-13, renumbered 1-10.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Trainer on Friday February 20, 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

The claims:

In claim 1, insert —cellulosic—before the word “textile” in line 2.

Claims 3 and 14 are cancelled.

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant's arguments, see Declaration, filed November 24, 2003, with respect to Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 11-13 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

4. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fono (US 4,27,881) in view of Beckmann et al. (WO 98/03725) has been withdrawn upon consideration of the applicant's declaration.

5. The rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fono (US 4,27,881) in view of Beckmann et al. (WO 98/03725) as applied to claims 1-8 and 11-12 above, and further in view of Olip et al. (US 5,749,923) has been withdrawn upon consideration of the applicant's declaration.

6. The rejection of claims 5 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112 is withdrawn in light of applicant's amendment to the claims and the examiner's amendment above.

Reasons For Allowance

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1,2,4-8 and 11-13 are allowed in light of applicant's declaration submitted November 24, 2003. Applicant's have shown unexpected and surprising results of the instant process compared to the process taught by Fono et al. (US 4,27,881).

Although, Fono et al. teach stripping dyes from textile fabric, the prior art disclosure is silent as to the integrity of the fibers after the removal of the color. None of the prior art of record teach a process for controlled partial decolorization of vat or sulfur – dyed cellulosic textile material with a compound of formula I as recited by the instant claim 1.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Preeti Kumar whose telephone number is 571-272-1320. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra N. Gupta can be reached on 571-272-1316. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Preeti Kumar
Examiner
Art Unit 1751

**MARGARET EINSMANN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1100**

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